

Response to Notice of Con-Compliant Amendment

Dated: January 3, 2006

Application No. 10/500,453

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending. Claims 6-8, 11, 13, 15, 17, and 21-22 are being amended. The Abstract is being amended to place it on a page by itself and to correct a typographical error.

This amendment is intended to replace the preliminary amendment filed with the application on June 29, 2004. That preliminary included status identifiers for each claim, but the Examiner objected to the use of the identifier "Previously Presented" for claims 1, 5, 18, and 23-24. The "Previously Presented" identifier was used because claims 1, 5, and 18 were amended and claims 23-24 were newly presented in an Article 19 amendment during the international phase of the present application. The Article 19 amendment was referred to in the transmittal letter that accompanied the conversion into the national phase on June 29, 2004. Given that history, it seems that the "Previously Presented" identifier is the correct identifier, but the undersigned attorney was told, during a telephone conference with the Examiner on February 1, 2005, that the "Original" identifier was appropriate for claims 1, 5, 18, and 23-24. The present amendment changes the identifier for claims 1, 5, 18, and 23-24 as suggested by the Examiner.

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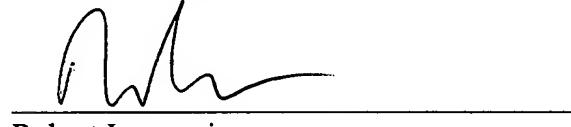
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The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

All of the claims in the application are allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure:

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